



Transit Committee Minutes

**Regular Meeting
August 4, 2015**

Committee Members in Attendance: Julie Mayfield, Chair; Dave Erb, Calvin Allen, Ed Johnson, Tom Tomlin,
City/ART Staff in Attendance: Sean Spiller, Rose Christian, Yuri Koslen

Community Members in Attendance: Diane Cast, Tony Hadley, Trevon Dunn, Bertha Brandon, Celeste Whitman

Called Meeting to Order – Julie Mayfield

▪Members introduced themselves.

7 July 2015 Minutes - Ed moved to approve, Tom seconded. Unanimous approval.

Public Comment I: Diane Cast requested service to Biltmore Park. Julie shared some history of negotiations on that service, and emphasized TC's desire to see service extended there.

TC Experiences Riding the Bus

Tom rode N, mostly on time. Julie witnessed a confused passenger in the Transit Center, with dispatcher not attempting any resolution beyond the specific question asked. Dave complimented a driver on the northern routes. Calvin has had good rides.

New Business

TC Openings: Call for applicants is out through usual channels; one application received so far. Tom would like to stay on for an additional year beyond his term limit, to smooth out the rotations; would also like to see clarification of term limits now that we're a Committee instead of a Commission.

Unfinished Business

SNTD Ridership: Statistics in packet. Julie commented that it looks like promotion / advertising is the most crucial need.

Final Budget for Transit: City budget for 2015-16 includes \$260,000 increase over 2014-15 to cover Sunday service (grant covers 1/4, city covers 3/4). Rose and Yuri suggest that TC prioritize additional drivers and supervisors in upcoming budget cycle. Management company will help eligible candidates get CDL if they don't already have one.

Fees and Charges: Yuri and Sean have been tasked with laying out timeframe for any proposed changes to fees and charges.

TC Goals:

- Super Service - Nothing to report. Ed will have his input for subcommittee before their next meeting.
- Increasing Funding - Julie hopes to have white paper to TC and MMTC by next month.
- Marketing and Education - Nothing to report.

MMTC Update: Last meeting revolved around Asheville in Motion; two reps from consultant gave presentation on coordinating land usage with transportation planning. DOT is studying Asheville's high rate of pedestrian crashes.

Policy / Guideline Document Update: No major updates, but should be kept on agenda.

Staff Updates

- Sean reported on "Watch for Me NC" pedestrian / bicycle safety campaign.

- Yuri reported on list of projects, clarified that ISO 14000 certification is for environmental performance. Nine to ten shelter / bus stop installations (not on list) will be contracted this year. No headway as yet on Transit Master Plan RFP.
- End of year report for operating statistics and ridership data in packet. APC system seems to give much better data than GFI fare box data. Staff will present recommendations this fall for route changes to be implemented 1 Jan 2016.
- First Transit is now offering nationally-certified customer service training monthly to drivers and dispatchers in conjunction with regular safety training.
- Julie requested that Staff resolve problems with the suggestion box in the Transit Center.

Public Comment II: none

Future Agenda Items: fees and charges, policy guidelines, TMP update, advertising

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2015, 3:30-5pm, 1st Floor Conference Room

Meeting Adjourned – 4:58pm